WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05) congratulated Lambda Legal and the ACLU of Illinois on their filings of lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of Illinois laws prohibiting same-sex marriage.

"I'm proud to support Lambda Legal and the ACLU in this fight to claim their constitutional right to fairness and equality," **said Rep. Quigley**. "One step at a time, through cases like this and the President's recent affirmation of support for marriage equality, we will reach justice. And we can't stop fighting until we do."

The lawsuit was filed earlier today in the Cook County Circuit Court. Several of the plaintiff couples testified last year during a <u>DOMA field forum hosted by Rep. Quigley</u> to investigate the impacts of the Defense of Marriage Act on individuals and families in Chicago.

A member of the Congressional Equality Caucus, Rep. Quigley has made LGBT equality one of his top <u>legislative priorities</u>. He is a <u>co-sponsor of the Respect for Marriage Act</u>, which would ensure that all couples are treated fairly under federal law. Rep. Quigley is also a co-sponsor of the Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act, which would provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees. As Cook County Commissioner, he passed the Domestic Partnership Benefits Ordinance, providing full benefits for domestic partners of county employees.

###

